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Claims

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- A dome switch having a shape extending at least substantially along a 1. length of an annular shaped path, wherein the path is circular in shape.
- 2. A dome switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said dome switch surrounds at least one other dome switch.
- 3. A dome switch as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said dome switch comprises a partial annulus.
- A dome switch as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said dome switch comprises a complete annulus.
- 5. A dome switch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the shape of the dome switch is defined by the shape of the dome sheet.
- A dome switch as claimed in any of preceding claim, wherein a select 6. means is activated upon actuation of the dome switch.
- 7. A dome switch as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein a rotator wheel is mounted on said dome switch.
- 8. A dome switch as claimed in any claim 7, wherein the dome switch is actuated when a pressure is applied to an upper surface of the rotator wheel in a direction substantially parallel to an axis perpendicular to the upper planar surface of the rotator wheel.
- A dome switch as claimed in claim 7 or 8, wherein the upper planar 9. surface of the rotator wheel is substantially annular in shape.

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10. A dome switch as claimed in claim 7, 8 or 9, , wherein the upper planar surface of the rotator wheel is exposed such that the upper planar surface may be accessed by a user.

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- 11. A dome switch as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 10, wherein the rotator wheel is connected to monitoring means for detecting rotational movement of the rotator wheel about an axis perpendicular to the upper planar surface of the rotator wheel.
- 12. An input apparatus comprising a dome switch as claimed in any preceding claim.
- 13. An input apparatus for a multimedia device, said input apparatus comprising:

a rotator wheel having an upper planar surface that is substantially annular in shape and exposed in order that the upper planar surface may be accessed by a user of the multimedia device;

means for detecting rotational movement of the rotator wheel about an axis perpendicular to the upper planar surface of the rotator wheel; and

select means activated when a pressure is applied to the upper surface of the rotator wheel in a direction substantially parallel to an axis perpendicular to the upper planar surface of the rotator wheel.

- 14. An input apparatus as claimed in claim 13, further comprising means to detect rotational movement of the rotator wheel.
- 15. An input apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the means to detect rotational movement comprises conductive tracks.
- 16. An input apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 13 to 15 in which a bridge contact is arranged to rotate in conjunction with the wheel.

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- 17. An input apparatus as claimed in any claims 13 to 16, wherein a tactile response of the select means is substantially the same over all of the rotator wheel.
- 18. An input apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein activation of the dome switch comprises temporarily modifying the electrically conductive or electrically capacitive properties of an electronic element.